Ogmore and Garw Urban District Council.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year, 1943

Ogmore and Garw
Urban District Council.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH

For the Year, 1943

*For portion of year.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

NAME.	QUALIFICATIONS.	OFFICE.	WHOLE OR PART TIME.	Contributions to Salary	
				Under P.H. Acts	By Exchq. Grants
W. A. Murphy	M.B., B.Ch., N.U.I., D.P.H. (Camb.).	Med. Officer of Health & Med. Supt. Isolation Hosp.	Whole Time	x	
Amy L. Jagger ...	M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H., Wales; M.R.C.S. Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond.	Asst. M.O., Ante-natal Clinics	Part Time		x
Sybil Morgan	B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.	M.O., Birth Control Clinic	Part Time		
R. G. Maliphant ...	M.D. (Lond.), M R.C.P. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.), F.C.O.G.	Consultant Obstetrician ...	Part Time		x
J Rees	Sanitary Inspector's Cert. ; Meat Inspector's Cert.	Senior Sanitary Inspector ...	Whole Time	x	
O. L. Thomas	Sanitary Inspector's Cert., Meat Inspector's Cert.	Sanitary Inspector ...	Whole Time	x	
Miss M. M. Davies ...	General Trained and Certificated Hospital Nurse. Fever Training.	Matron, Isolation Hospital	Whole Time	x	
Miss E. A. Thomas ...	General Trained and Certificated Hospital Nurse. C.M.B. Certificate.	Health Visitor	Whole Time		x
Miss L. M. Thomas ...	General Trained and Certificated Hospital Nurse. C.M.B. Certificate.	Health Visitor	Whole Time		x
Miss M. Isaac	General Trained and Certificated Hospital Nurse. C.M.B. Cert., H.V. Cert.	Health Visitor	Whole time		x
Miss A. Poelde ...	C.S.M.M.B. B.P.A.	Ultra Violet Ray Therapist	Part Time		
*Mrs. M. Liedtke ...	...	Welfare Officer	Whole Time		x
*Miss E. M. Bishop ...	...	Welfare Officer	Whole Time		x
Miss J. S. Jones ...	Higher Cert. Nat. Froebel Union. Board of Education Teacher's Cert.	Wartime Nursery Superintendent	Whole time		x
Mrs. G. Burden ...	Uncertificated Teacher ...	Wartime Nursery Warden ...	Whole Time		x
Miss N. Williams ...	Assistant Hospital Nurse ...	Wartime Nursery Warden ...	Whole Time		x
Mrs. W. Young ...	Board of Education Teacher's Certificate ...	Wartime Nursery Warden ...	Whole Time		x
Mrs. M. Lewis	...	Clerk	Whole time		
Mrs. L. John	...	Clerk	Whole time		x

OGMORE AND GARW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1943

To the Chairman and Members of the

Ogmore and Garw Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Miss Llewellyn and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit for your consideration my report upon the vital statistics and sanitary circumstances of the Ogmore and Garw Urban District for the year 1943.

In accordance with the instructions of the Welsh Board of Health the report is prepared on the lines of those for previous war years and the information is mainly statistical. The birth-rate is 20.6 and the general death-rate is 11.5 per 1000 of the total population. The infantile death-rate is 53 per 1000 live births; the still-birth rate is 45 per 1000 total births; the maternal death-rate is 5.8 per 1000 total births.

It is not apparently permissible at the present time to publish statistics relative to overcrowding in the area, but the Council are well aware of the conditions which exist amongst a number of families. It is the intention to relieve these conditions as soon as may be practicable but attention must also be directed to the number of families living in dwellings devoid of amenities and in circumstances detrimental to their health.

Amongst their proposals for post-war reconstruction the Council have included the erection of 76 houses in the first year's programme, but if it is the intention to improve the home conditions of those families living in squalor it will be necessary to plan a more ambitious housing programme for subsequent years, when regard will also have to be given to the re-housing of families from properties affected by ground subsidence.

Other matters for comment are the continued prevalence of scabies in the district and the verminous condition of the heads of many young women and girls found on admission to the Isolation Hospital. Both conditions show the need for continued instruction in methods of personal hygiene.

On the whole during 1943 the district has been free from any major epidemic and the general health of the population has remained good.

In conclusion I would bring to your notice the continued excellent work performed throughout the year by the staff of the department.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

W. A. MURPHY,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Council Offices,

Brynmenyn,

June, 1944.

I.—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS

Area—Acres	17,984
Estimated population, 1943	——
Number of inhabited houses, 1943 (estimated) ...	5,448
Rateable value—Before de-rating	£96,746
„ „ After de-rating	£72,861
Sum represented by a penny rate	£263

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF 1943.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate ...	462	240	222	Birth-rate...20.6
	Illegitimate ...	22	9	13	
					Rate per 1,000
Stillbirths		23	12	11	total births... 45
Deaths		271	148	123	Death-rate... 11.5

			Rate per 1,000 total Births
Deaths from puerperal causes	Puerperal sepsis ...	0	—
	Other puerperal causes	3	5.8
	Total	3	5.8

Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	53
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	54
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	45
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	37
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
„ „ Whooping-cough (all ages)	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	1
„ „ Cerebro-spinal Fever (all ages)	Nil

II.—General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

There were no additions to the number of clinics and infant welfare centres in the area. The attendances of mothers and children at the clinics, infant welfare centres and ultra-violet ray therapy clinics continue to be satisfactory.

The three war-time nurseries established in the district continue to perform a useful service in caring for the children of women in employment, or evacuated to the district from other areas.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

211 patients. amongst whom 3 deaths occured, were admitted to Blackmill Isolation Hospital during 1943; two of the three deaths were attributed to tuberculous meningitis.

HEALTH VISITORS.

Number of visits paid by the Health Visitors during 1943 :—

(*a*) To expectant mothers—

(1) First visits, 445; (2) Revisits, 912; (3) Total visits 1,387.

(b) To children under one year of age—

(1) First visits, 507; (2) Revisits, 1188; (3) Total visits, 1,695.

(*c*) To children 1 to 5 years. Total visits	4,504
Orthopaedic visits	193
Ophthalmia visits	8
Tuberculosis visits	973
Miscellaneous visits and enquiries	18

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

There is one child in the district adopted for reward, to whom regular visits were paid by the Health Visitor concerned.

ADOPTION OF CHILDREN (Regulation) ACT, 1939

There are two children in the district under supervision in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

MATERNITY SERVICES.

175 maternity cases were admitted to the Mid-Glamorgan County Hospital, Bridgend, under the Council's auspices during 1943

III.—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

No developments in the drainage and sewerage, nor in the water supplies of the area, occurred during the year.

Ground movement at Wyndham, Ogmore Vale and at Braichycymmer, Pontycymmer caused considerable disturbance of sewers and water mains.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The number of inspections and re-inspections made during the year were as follows :—

Inspections under the Housing Acts...	76
,, ,, ,, Public Health Acts ...	2116
Revisits to premises under repair	1398
Investigations and visits in cases of infectious disease	544
Inspections under Shops Acts...	523
Inspections of Cowsheds and Dairies	438
Inspections of slaughter-houses and slaughtering ...	697
Bakehouses	138
Cinemas	113
Schools and public buildings	356
Workshops	364
Butchers' shops	311
Special complaints investigated	622
Privies converted to water-carriage system	19
Drains tested and relaid	155
Premises connected to main water supply	1
Premises disinfected	260
Samples of water collected for analysis	29
,, ,, milk collected for bacteriological examination	75
,, ,, milk tested for sediment	41

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The following table sets out the number and classification of Factories in the district :—

A. Factories where Mechanical Power is employed.

Printing Works	1
Bakehouses	10
Boot Repairs	6
Electricity	2
Mortar Mills	1
Pasteurising Plant	1
Garages	2

B. Factories where no Mechanical Power is employed.

Boot Repairs	6
Dressmaking	8
Carpentry	9
Tailoring	1
Bakehouses	3
Smithies	3
Watchmakers	3
Garages	2
Plumbers	3

IV.—Housing.

No new houses were erected in the district during 1943 either by the Local Authority or by private enterprise : all the 210 houses owned by the District Council were occupied on 31st December.

Difficulty in obtaining adequate supplies of building material continued to cause delay in the execution of house repair works.

Numerous cases of families living under conditions of overcrowding were brought to the notice of the Council during the year but it was found impossible to take any effective steps to remedy matters under present circumstances.

The effect of ground subsidence in the Braichycymmer area of Pontycymmer continue and a number of further houses in that area are rapidly becoming unhabitable: the position is serious and will call for early action when conditions permit.

The following table summarises the work of the Sanitary Inspectors during the year in relation to their housing duties :—

HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

1.—Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects and the number of inspections made	2,046 and 2,535
(2) Total number of houses inspected and recorded under the Housing Regulations....	76
(3) Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	3
(4) Number of dwelling-houses found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation ...	664

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice :—

Number of houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	345

3.—Action under Statutory Powers :—

(1) Proceedings under Housing Acts :—

(*a*) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	5
(*b*) Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit after service of notices :—	
(*a*) By Owners	3
(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners	2

(2) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(*a*) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	186
(*b*) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—(a) By owners	306
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	17

4.—Demolition Orders :—

Number of houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	2
Number of houses demolished	Nil
Number of houses closed but not demolished	1

V.—Inspection and Supervision of Food.

MILK SUPPLY.

Routine inspections of farms and dairies were carried out during the year and samples of milk were sent to the Cardiff and County Public Health Laboratory at regular intervals for bacteriological examination.

Milk sampling under the National Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme was also undertaken by the Dairy Bacteriologists. The premises licensed under the Milk (Special Designations) Order were regularly inspected and supervised.

MEAT.

The work of meat inspection is greatly facilitated by the centralisation of slaughtering in two of the district slaughter-houses, and it is to be hoped that there will be no reversion to the system of a number of small privately owned slaughter-houses in the post-war period.

The following table sets out the amount of meat seized, condemned and disposed of as unfit for human consumption during the year :—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle, excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	469	123	319	7182	7
Number inspected	460	118	295	5721	7
All diseases except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcases condemned ...	0	1	0	4	0
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	101	39	0	365	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	22%	33%	0	6.4%	0
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcases condemned ...	1	6	0	0	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	91	24	0	0	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	20%	25%	0	0	14%

OTHER FOODS.

Unsound food condemned :—

Bacon and Ham, 217½ lbs.; Rabbits, 120 lbs.; Fish, 9 stones; Cheese, 107 lbs.; Margarine, 5 lbs.; Butter, 16½ lbs.; Cereals, 183 cartons; Oranges, 37 lbs.; Dried Fruit, 52 lbs.; Potatoes, 7 cwts.; Assorted Tinned Foods, 605 tins.

VI.—Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1943

Disease	No. of Cases Notified	No. of Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	67	51	...
Diphtheria	103	103	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...
Paratyphoid Fever ...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	54	2	9
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	3	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	4	4	...
Erysipelas	6	.	...
Measles	444	2	...
Whooping Cough ...	119	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...
Malaria	1	1	...

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The work of diphtheria immunisation was continued in the district during 1943. In consequence of the intensive campaign in the preceding year the majority of children of school age have already been immunised and during 1943 immunisation was practically confined to school entrants and to children of pre-school age The antigen used was alum-precipitated toxoid, supplied free of charge by the Welsh Board of Health. The antigen was given in two injections, of which the first was 0.2 c.c. and the second 0.5 c.c. with one month's interval between injections. The following tables show the number of children immunised in 1943 and the estimated percentage of the child population immunised:—

Table I

Diphtheria Immunisation in 1943:—

No. of children immunised aged 1 to 5 years ...	351
,, ,, ,, between 5 and 15 years	336

Table II

Estimated percentage of child population considered to have been immunised as at 31st December, 1943:—

Aged 1 to 5 years	Aged 5 years and over but under 15 years
56.4%	86.3%

DIPHTHERIA IN IMMUNISED CHILDREN.

Case No.	Pre-Schick Test	Dates of Immunisation	Post-Schick Test	Type of Disease
1	Nil	A.P.T. 15/7/37, 22/7/37	Nil	Mild
2	Nil	T.A.F. 15/10/41, 29/10/41, 26/11/41	Nil	Mild
3	Pos. 25/4/32	T.A.M. 9/5/32, 23/5/32, 3/6/32	Neg. 28/11/33	Mild
4	Nil	~~3/6/32.~~ A.P.T. 26/5/33 / A.P.T. 25/2/37	Pos. 25/2/37 / Neg. 8/2/38	Mild
5	Pos. 21/11/38	T.A.M. 28/11/38, 5/12/38, 12/12/38	Nil	Moderately Severe
6	Nil	T.A.M. 10/9/33, 18/9/33, 25/9/33	Neg. 10/9/34	Mild
7	Nil	A.P.T. 19/5/41, 16/6/41	Nil	Mild
8	Nil	A.P.T. 31/3/41, 28/4/41	Nil	Moderately Severe
9	Nil	T.A.F. 23/9/40, 30/9/40, 28/10/40	Nil	Mild
10	Nil	T.A.M. 25/11/29, 9/12/29, 16/12/29	Neg. 7/4/30	Moderately Severe
11	Nil	A.P.T. 15/10/34 (0.5 c.c.)	Neg. 25/3/35	Mild
12	Pos. 7/6/43	T.A.F. 7/6/43, 21/6/43, 5/7/43	Nil	Mild
13	Pos. 21/11/38	T.A.F. 28/11/38, 5/12/38, 12/12/38	Nil	Moderately Severe
14	Nil	A.P.T. 5/11/34 (0.5 c.c.)	Nil	Moderately Severe
15	Nil	A.P.T. 21/9/36 (0.5 c.c.)	Neg. 24/10/38	Mild
16	Pos. 3/10/38	T.A.F. 10/10/38, 17/10/38, 24/10/38	Nil	Moderately Severe
17	Nil	A.P.T. 7/7/41, 29/7/41	Nil	Mild
18	Nil	A.P.T. 26/5/41, 23/6/41	Nil	Mild
19	Neg. 10/9/34	—	—	Moderately Severe
20	Nil	A.P.T. 26/5/41, 23/6/41	Nil	Moderately Severe
21	Nil	T.A.M. 14/1/29, 28/1/29	Neg. 23/9/39	Mild
22	Nil	A.P.T. 1/2/43, 5/4/43	Nil	Severe
23	Nil	A.P.T. 9/6/43, 7/7/43	Nil	Mild
24	Nil	A.P.T. 25/5/41, 23/6/41	Nil	Severe
25	Nil	A.P.T. 7/7/41, 6/10/41	Nil	Mild
26	Nil	A.P.T. 7/7/41, 6/10/41	Nil	Mild
27	Nil	A.P.T. 7/7/41, 6/10/41	Nil	Mild
28	Nil	A.P.T. 12/10/42, 9/11/42	Nil	Mild
29	Nil	A.P.T. 30/6/41, 8/9/41	Nil	Mild
30	Nil	A.P.T. 25/10/43, 22/11/43	Nil	Mild
31	Nil	A.P.T. 30/6/41, 8/9/41	Nil	Mild
32	Nil	A.P.T. 12/10/42, 9/11/42	Nil	Mild
33	Nil	A.P.T. 30/6/41, 20/7/41	Nil	Moderately Severe
34	Nil	A.P.T. 7/7/41, 28/7/41	Nil	Moderately Severe
35	Nil	A.P.T. 14/1/35 (0.5 c.c.)	Neg. 21/2/36	Mild
36	Nil	A.P.T. 12/5/41, 9/6/41	Nil	Mild
37	Nil	A.P.T. 7/12/42, 4/1/43	Nil	Mild
38	Nil	T.A.F. 6/5/41, 20/5/41, 17/6/41	Nil	Severe
39	Nil	A.P.T. 30/9/35 /0.5 c.c.)	Neg. 12/10/36	Mild
40	Nil	T.A.F. 20/5/41, 17/6/41, 1/7/41	Nil	Moderately Severe
41	Nil	A.P.T. 8/12/41, 12/1/42	Nil	Moderately Severe
42	Nil	A.P.T. 7/7/41, 28/7/41	Nil	Mild
43	Nil	A.P.T. 7/7/41, 28/7/41	Nil	Mild
44	Nil	A.P.T. 25/11/41, 5/1/42	Nil	Severe
45	Nil	A.P.T. 29/9/41, 27/10/41	Nil	Moderately Severe

SCABIES.

There was a continued prevalance of scabies in the district during the year. 608 cases were treated at the scabies depôt which has been established in the Gas Cleansing Section of the Pontycymmer Fixed First Aid Post; 68 of these cases were re-infected and had to return for a further course of treatment.

Treatment is carried out by the trained nurse attached to the post and she is assisted by male and female auxiliary nurses paid on a sessional basis. The treatment comprises the application of benzyl benzoate emulsion on two successive days following a cleansing bath.

Informal notification of cases is made by local medical practitioners and notifications in respect of school children are made by the School Medical Officer.

Home contacts are visited by the sanitary inspectors, who direct other members of the family with suspicious symptoms to the centre for diagnosis and treatment.

LOUSE INFESTATION.

An endeavour has been made by the Health Visitors to ascertain the extent to which head louse infestation is prevalent amongst children under school age with a view to combating this evil.

It cannot be pretended that their approaches have met with any degree of success and in fact in some instances resentment has been expressed by the mother at the suggestion that the children's heads are louse-infested. Every effort has been made by the Health Visitors to overcome hostility and it is possible that their work in this direction will prove more successful in future.

Particular attention is paid to the heads of children in attendance at the Wartime Nurseries, where it has been found that infestation with head lice is most likely to occur where other children from the same home are in attendance at school. The fact that head-louse infestation is prevalent in the area is shown by the results of examination of the heads of 93 patients admitted to the Isolation Hospital:

All Ages.

Males.			Females.		
Verminous.	Nits.	Clean.	Verminous.	Nits.	Clean.
6	—	26	31	8	22

Amongst the females were a number between 15 and 18 years of age, and it is surprising to note the lousy condition of the heads of these young girls, which is largely attributable to the present-day styles of hairdressing which do not lend themselves to daily brushing and combing and regular weekly washing of the hair.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

No. of cases notified	No. of cases in which vision was unimpaired	Deaths
3	3	Nil

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	1
10—15	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—20	2	3	2	2	—	1	1	2
20—25	2	7	—	2	1	2	1	—
25—35	5	6	—	3	4	3	—	—
35—45	4	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
45—55	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
55—65	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
65 & upwards ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	16	19	7	11	7	8	3	3

NOTIFICATION of TUBERCULOSIS.—Three of the fatal cases had not been notified to me before death.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925; Public Health Act, 1936. Section 172.—No action taken or required.

GLAMORGAN VITAL STATISTICS. URBAN DISTRICTS, 1943

District	*Birth-rate*	*Death-rate*	*Infantile Death-rate (per 1,000 live-births)*
England and Wales	16.5	12.1	49
148 Smaller Towns	19.4	12.7	46
Administrative County	18.4	12.4	56
Aberdare	15.6	14.4	44
Barry Borough	20.3	11.8	40
Bridgend	16.8	11.2	35
Caerphilly	20.6	13.5	75
Cowbridge Borough	17.0	13.8	48
Gelligaer	22.0	12.1	77
Glyncorrwg	23.2	11.3	45
Llwchwr	18.1	11.5	41
Maesteg	19.9	12.9	81
Mountain Ash	18.1	13.7	46
Neath Borough	14.5	12.2	70
Ogmore and Garw	20.7	11.6	54
Penarth	17.4	13.0	49
Pontypridd	18.5	13.0	69
Porthcawl	17.6	12.2	57
Port Talbot Borough	18.3	13.2	58
Rhondda	17.3	13.6	55

The above table is supplied by the courtesy of Dr. A. R. Culley, County Medical Officer.

Causes of Death in Ogmore and Garw U.D., 1942.

(Registrar General).

	Disease.	No. of Deaths M.	F.
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—
2	Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever	—	—
4	Whooping Cough	—	—
5	Diphtheria	—	—
6	Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	7	8
7	Other forms of tuberculosis	3	3
8	Syphilitic diseases	—	1
9	Influenza	2	—
10	Measles	—	—
11	Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	—	—
12	Acute Inf. encephalitis	—	—
13	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M). uterus (F)	—	4
14	Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	9	4
15	Cancer of breast	—	3
16	Cancer of all other sites	8	9
17	Diabetes	—	1
18	Intracranial vascular lesions	11	13
19	Heart disease	40	29
20	Other diseases of circulatory system ...	—	2
21	Bronchitis	17	7
22	Pneumonia	8	1
23	Other respiratory diseases	4	1
24	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	—
25	Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	—
26	Appendicitis	—	1
27	Other digestive diseases	5	5
28	Nephritis	2	3
29	Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis ...	—	—
30	Other maternal causes	—	3
31	Premature birth	3	2
32	Congenital malformation, etc.	3	3
33	Suicide	—	—
34	Road traffic accidents	1	1
35	Other violent causes	4	2
36	All other causes	21	17
	Totals	148	123
		271	

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